

Mr. Deignan leaves two children and three grandchildren to carry on his legacy of community service and joins Joan, in eternity. On behalf of Hoosiers, I am humbled to honor Dick here today. He will be missed for his friendship, leadership, work ethic and his character. His legacy is evidence that hard work combined with the opportunities of American exceptionalism can lead to the realization of the American Dream, however an individual wants to define it. Rest in peace my friend, and thank you for your example and leadership.

RECOGNIZING MR. BOB GODSHALL

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend of mine, Pennsylvania State Representative Bob Godshall for the 50 years of service he has given to our community, and the state of Pennsylvania. Representative Godshall has served 32 years in the Pennsylvania Legislature representing the 53rd District in Montgomery County, PA—an area which encompasses the Indian Valley portion of my Congressional District.

Prior to his work in the legislature, Bob served 3 years as Montgomery County Controller, and 17 years on the Souderton School Board. He also served 3 years as Montgomery County Open Space Director, where he helped bring Montgomery County's beautiful park system to fruition. Bob was also instrumental in the creation of the United States Constitution Center in Philadelphia—a place where thousands of visitors come to pay tribute to the founding fathers each year.

NOTING LOS ANGELES CITY DESIGNATION OF JANUARY 16, 2015 AS DR. LA-DORIS MCCLANEY DAY

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and celebrate the designation of January 16, 2015 by the City of Los Angeles, California as Dr. La-Doris McClanney Day, in honor of the noteworthy career and remarkable generosity of La-Doris McClanney, Ph.D.

The McClanney family has risen from the humblest of roots: Dr. McClanney's mother, Eula McClanney, grew up picking cotton with her sharecropper parents in Orion, Alabama and was self-educated after the sixth grade. Nonetheless, a powerful drive to succeed, personal discipline, strong faith, and a talent for entrepreneurship built a real estate business that allowed Mrs. McClanney and her family not only to thrive but also to lift others as they climbed.

La-Doris McClanney and her late sister Burnie McClanney worked with their mother to expand both their business and their philanthropy across six states, donating buildings and money to improve the lives of others. Dr. La-Doris McClanney shares both her mother's

aptitude for business and her deep commitment to charitable works. Over her 40-year career in real estate and philanthropy, Dr. McClanney has contributed 10% of her gross income to charities large and small, amounting to many millions of dollars. She gives of herself as well, writing, and lecturing, assisting families in need, and mentoring African American college students and sponsoring their tuition. Dr. McClanney holds a masters degree from Pepperdine University and a doctorate degree from Bethune Cookman College, and the themes of education and health research emerge from a brief review of those receiving her charitable contributions: American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Bethune Cookman College, The Christian Broadcasting Network, City of Hope, King Drew School of Medicine, Save African's Children, and the United Negro College Fund, among many others.

Dr. McClanney has been recognized over 500 times with commendations, awards, resolutions and honors for her many good works. I congratulate her and I commend the City of Los Angeles for celebrating her many contributions.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,079,608,395,519.69. We've added \$7,452,731,346,606.61 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

VICTOR LOVELADY—THE AMERICAN BREED

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, one of my constituents—Mr. Victor Lovelady—was killed in Algeria after being taken captive by terrorists. Before his death, Victor displayed some of the very best qualities of the American spirit: courage, compassion, and selflessness. I would like to take a moment to tell you his story.

Like many Americans, Victor Lovelady was a hard worker who put in long hours to provide for his family of four. For most of his life, Victor worked as an industrial engineer and master electrician in his hometown of Nederland, Texas.

However, when work in his area slowed, he spent nearly three years traveling back and forth daily to work in Houston from Nederland. He did this so that his children would not have to change schools. The 150 mile round trip was an hour and a half each way. After his

kids finished high school, Victor moved to Atascocita, Texas (25 miles north of Houston) where I live Congressional District 2. Victor never had a pension plan and always had to pay his family's insurance by himself. He never had more than two weeks off in a year. He longed to be able to retire and spend more time with his wife and children.

When Victor was given the opportunity to work overseas for British Petroleum he weighed the pros and cons. He knew a few years at this new job would provide him with enough money to retire and be with his family. He also believed that working in Africa would be safe.

On January 9, 2013, Victor arrived in the remote area of In Amenas, Algeria to begin his new job at the BP Gas facility. In the early hours of January 16th, an army of gun-wielding terrorists crashed their trucks through the gates of the gas plant. Within minutes they had seized control of the facility and held hundreds of its employees hostage. Victor Lovelady and several other workers were having tea when suddenly a colleague entered the cantina with a gunshot wound to his stomach. The man had been shot when Mokhtar Belmokhtar's al-Qaeda linked terrorists stormed the facility and opened fire on the innocent workers.

Putting thoughts of himself aside and disregarding the sound of gunfire, Victor began cleaning and dressing the man's wound. Victor then hid him in a food container for his safety.

Even as the sound of gunshots grew louder and louder, Victor immediately lifted other men into the cantina's false ceiling to hide them from the attackers. In total, Victor secretly secured three men into the ceiling hiding spot. Heavily armed jihadists were going room to room at the plant to capture victims. Only when it sounded like the militants had finally entered the cantina did Victor quickly try to hide and save himself. Unfortunately, he fell and injured his ankle attempting to climb into the ceiling. Moments later, the terrorists captured him and held him hostage. The facility was under the control of the terrorists for three grueling days. Hostages were rounded up one by one, handcuffed and strapped with explosive devices. The terrorists were threatening to blow them up if the U.S. and Algeria did not release jihadi prisoners.

Sadly, Victor was killed when Algerian military forces moved in to rescue the victims and attack the terrorists. In total 40 civilians from 10 countries were killed by the terrorists and in the rescue attempt. 29 terrorists were also killed.

Victor's selfless and heroic actions saved four lives that day. A once ordinary man became extraordinary in the face of danger and violence. Courage like this should be applauded and remembered. This is why I nominated Mr. Lovelady for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is our nation's highest civilian honor and recognizes individuals who have made "an especially meritorious contribution" to our society. It is clear that Victor Lovelady not only meets, but exceeds this standard.

The events in Algeria last year have disappeared from public view in the sands of time. The media has moved on to other tragic events. There have been more terrorist attacks throughout the world. Americans and non-Americans have been murdered. But it is the Americans such as Victor that we should